REMARKS

Each of the independent claims 1, 8, 11, and 12.has been amended to include a limitation namely that the messaging system is based on a publish/subscribe mechanism and/or a point-to-point protocol. This limitation is disclosed for example on page 1, line 12 and on page 5, line 15. The added features are distinguishing features of messaging systems.

Kumar is directed towards making profile information available to a client. Profile information is defined at col. 1, lines 57 to 65, as information used to "configure, initialize, shutdown and aid in making runtime processing decisions." One example given of profile information is the Windows registry file (col. 2, lines 36 to 40). Another example given of information contained in profiles are addresses and phone numbers (col. 13, line 30).

Message quality is not an issue in Kumar. No mention whatsoever of message quality is made in the entire text. To the extent that Kumar addresses the transmission of profile information, Kumar apparently conveniently assumes that the quality of transmission of the information is 100%. This can be readily seen from the simple facts that one would not like one's Windows registry file or one's phone book to become corrupted through some lapse of 100% message quality.

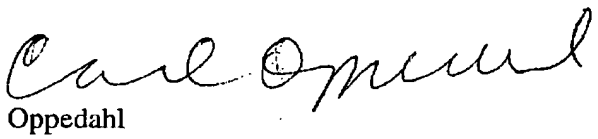
The invention provides for a mechanism for delivering data between message clients (claim 1). The format of the messages may differ, and depending on the type of message, transmission quality is not required be perfect. For example, in many applications relying upon image or audio data it is acceptable to have less-than-perfect message quality.. The feature of specifying a message delivery quality - and allowing less than 100% transmission quality - is therefore contrary to the teaching of Kumar.

If one versed in the art were to apply the teaching of Kumar to an existing messaging system such as JMS (Java Message System), he or she would implement Kumar's plug-in adapters that by

necessity provide an error-free transmission. This teaches away from the present invention, which allows for and specifies a message delivery quality that may be differ from 100%.

Reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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